



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331

<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

38 December 15, 2015


PATRICK OGAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

December 15, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**SANTA CLARA RIVER FLOODWAY ORDINANCE
REVISION OF THE ADOPTED FLOODWAY MAPS
ML MAP 43-ML26.1, 43-ML27.1, AND 43-ML28
IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITY OF CASTAIC
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to adopt an ordinance to revise the Santa Clara River Floodway and related maps and water-surface elevations to reflect new information and engineering analysis about the floodway area.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the adoption of an ordinance revising the Santa Clara River Floodway and related maps and water-surface elevations is exempt from the provision of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Introduce, waive reading, and place the Santa Clara River Floodway Ordinance on the subsequent agenda for adoption.
3. Approve for introduction an ordinance revising the Santa Clara River Floodway and related maps and water-surface elevations to reflect new engineering analysis of the floodway based on updated information.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On August 6, 1985, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 85.0134 to establish a floodway and water-surface elevations for the Santa Clara River from Bouquet Canyon to the Ventura County line (Floodway). As a result of the ordinance, construction-related activities within the established floodway are regulated to ensure that new developments are adequately protected from anticipated high-flow events.

The Floodway was adopted in connection with the County's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The regulations implementing the NFIP (Title 44, of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 59, et seq.) require, under certain circumstances, that the local governments establish floodways in those areas within their jurisdictions that are subject to flooding as a condition of eligibility to participate in the NFIP.

Based on recent engineering studies and analysis, Public Works has determined that the Santa Clara River Floodway should be revised to reflect new information regarding drainage improvements, topographic, hydraulic, and hydrologic conditions.

The proposed enclosed ordinance will revise the Floodway to incorporate the more recent engineering analysis, as depicted on the Location Map in Exhibit A. The corresponding floodway maps 43-ML26.1, 43-ML27.1, 43-ML28, and water-surface elevations are proposed to be revised as depicted on Exhibits B, C, and D.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1). The revision of the Floodway maps more effectively communicates updated flood risk information for the management of the floodplain along the Santa Clara River.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Budget or the County's General Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Floodway was initially established by Ordinance No. 85.0134 adopted on August 6, 1985.

On July 26, 2011, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 2011-0039 to revise the Floodway to reflect changed conditions resulting from the construction of the bank protection project known as Private Drain No. 2615, which is part of the larger State Route 126/Commerce Center Drive Interchange Improvement Project. Private Drain No. 2615 was not yet constructed at the time Ordinance No. 2011-0039 was adopted; therefore, the operative date of the ordinance was conditioned upon notification by the Director of Public Works to the Executive Officer of the Board that construction of Private Drain No. 2615 had been completed and that Private Drain No. 2615 had been accepted by the Director of Public Works.

This is to advise the Executive Office and the Board that Private Drain No. 2615 was recently completed and has been accepted by the Director of Public Works. In addition to revising the Floodway to reflect the completion of Private Drain No. 2615, Public Works is now proposing to

make additional revisions to the Floodway to reflect engineering analysis of the Floodway area performed since Ordinance No. 2011-0039 for Private Drain No. 2615 was adopted.

The engineering analysis that is the basis for the proposed Floodway revisions was prepared by Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering, Inc., and is entitled Capital Floodplain and Floodway Revision Analysis, Castaic Junction Sheriff's Station Project Site, Santa Clara River ML Floodway Map Revision dated May 2015. The analysis uses updated topographic and hydrologic information and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hydrologic Engineering Centers River Analysis System software version 4.1.0 to analyze the hydraulics.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The recommended actions are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. The proposed revisions to the Floodway and corresponding maps and water-surface elevations are within a class of projects that has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15305 of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines and Class 5 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, as adopted by the Board on November 17, 1987, Synopsis No. 57.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The project will have no adverse impact on current flood control services or projects.

CONCLUSION

Please return an adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Division.

Respectfully submitted,



GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:ARG:ba

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Rochelle Goff)
County Counsel
Executive Office